

Public Health Act, 1875.

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# REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1915,

ON THE

**SANITARY CONDITION**

OF THE

*Bradford-on-Avon Rural District.*

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PRESENTED TO THE

**Bradford-on-Avon Rural District Council**

BY

**W. JOHN A. ADYE,**

*Medical Officer of Health of the Bradford-on-Avon Rural  
Sanitary Authority,*

AND

**Mr. RICHARD GIDDINGS,**

*Sanitary Inspector.*



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# Medical Officer's Annual Report.

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES & GENTLEMEN,

THIS Report will be much shorter than usual, as in a Circular Letter from the Local Government Board, the following paragraph is inserted:—

“It is not proposed to issue this year the usual memorandum on the preparation of Annual Reports. The Board consider that many of the details usually inserted in the Annual Report, such as a description of the district, and of the water supply, sewerage, and sewage disposal, etc., may be omitted, and that the Report may be confined to a record of what has taken place during the year.”

The estimated population for the year, works out at \*5456, a figure greatly in excess of the real number, a large number of men having joined the Colours: it necessarily follows that as the average rates are calculated on the estimated population they also are inaccurate.

## **Infectious Disease.**

Of the notifiable infectious diseases, other than those notified under the Tuberculous Regulations, there were only 10; a considerable improvement on last year when 42 were certified—they were as follows:—Scarlet Fever 6, Diphtheria 2, and Erysipelas 2; none were fatal.

On the other hand, of non-notifiable infectious diseases, whooping cough was fatal in two and influenza in five cases.

A recommendation from the Local Government Board that Measles, German Measles and Whooping Cough should be made

\* This figure has been altered to 5178.

notifiable by the Council was not agreed to. Since then, Measles and German Measles have been made compulsorily notifiable : the new Order to take effect from January 1st, 1916.

The precautions taken in Infectious disease are as follow (1) Notification ; (2) Isolation in The Statutory Hospital ; (3) Disinfection of room, or rooms, bedding and clothing ; (4) The room is disinfected by formaldehyde candles, and the bedding is done in the steam disinfecter at the Hospital ; (5) A thorough inspection of the premises is made by the Sanitary Inspector, and any defects found in drainage, water, or milk supply, remedied. (6) A return of all cases is sent to the County Council and Local Government Board every week.

### **Tubercular Disease.**

Eleven cases of all kinds were reported, in nine of them the seat of disease was the lungs—Phthisis, and two in other parts of the body.

The largest proportion was in women, viz : eight cases, only three men being affected. The cases were distributed as follows :—Holt 4, Limpley Stoke 2, one case being Phthisis, the other tubercular disease of the testicles and peritonœun ; Atworth 2, one Phthisis, and the other in the glands of the neck ; Monkton Farleigh 2 ; Broughton 1.

One case was a Belgian.

Three ended fatally.

Three were sent to Winsley Sanatorium and discharged greatly improved in health.

An out-door shelter was provided for one case.

The same precautions are taken after death or removal (when known) as in cases of Scarlet Fever, etc.

No provision has been made by the Guardians for Chronic Cases either in the Workhouse, or elsewhere.



Spitting bottles are provided gratuitously in necessitous cases.

Sputa are examined by the Clinical Research Society.

### Births.

These numbered 95, a decrease of 8 on last year.

Forty-seven males, two of these illegitimate; forty-eight females, one illegitimate.

I append a table showing their distribution :—

PARISH.	Boys	Girls.	ILLIGITIMATE.		TOTAL.
			Boys.	Girls.	
RURAL DISTRICT.					
Atworth ... ..	6	3			9
Bradford Without ...	3	2			5
Broughton Gifford ...	4	8			12
Holt ... ..	10	10			20
Limpley Stoke ...	4	3			7
Monkton Farleigh ...	7	3			10
South Wraxall ...		5		1	6
Westwood ...	4	6	2		12
Wingfield ... ..	3	2			5
Winsley ... ..	4	5			9
	45	47	2	1	95

The Notification of Births Act, has been adopted throughout the County and came into force on July 1st, 1915.

### Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in the District was 59, males 30, females 29; to these 5 residents who died outside the District must be added to the number; and 6 Deaths of strangers must be deducted from the whole number, the nett Deaths

being 58, equalling a rate per 1000 of 11.20. Four deaths occurred in children under 1 year of age.

### **House and Town Planning.**

In consequence of the scarcity of labour, and the rise in the price of materials, less has been done under this act than was the case last year. A hundred and nineteen houses had been examined and 54 of them were found to be satisfactory. Four were totally unfit for human habitation. One house was closed, and two were demolished, voluntarily.

Two houses were made fit for human habitation without closing order being issued, and one was made fit after an order was served.

There is a scarcity of houses in Holt and Limpley Stoke.

Seven working class dwellings were built during the year.

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One case of overcrowding was abated.

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Building regulations are required in the whole area.

### **Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.**

No cases of Lead (Plumbism), Phosporus or Anthrax poisoning were reported.

The workshops are well kept, ventilated and lighted.

Six of the eight bakehouses have patent ovens, and all are well kept. none of them are underground.

A large number of out workers engaged in glove making in the villages of Holt, Broughton and Atworth, have been visited and found satisfactory.

The factories are well kept and are as follows:—

**Holt**—Steam Laundry, 1 Wool Staplers, Tannery and Fletcher's Yard, 1 Mattress and Bed Furniture Factory, 1 Glove Factory.

**Broughton**.—1 Mattress Factory.

**Limpley Stoke**.—1 Saw Mill and 1 Rubber Factory.

**Winsley**.—1 Flock Mill and 1 Stone Cutting Yard.

**Westwood**.—1 Flock Mill at Avoncliff, and 1 Flour Mill at Stowford.

Two samples of flock were taken for analysis, and the results were satisfactory.



## (1) Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspection	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories ... .. (including Factory Landdries).	7	none	none
Workshops ... .. (including Workshop Laundries).	51	none	none
Total. ... ..	58	0	0

## (2) Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of prosecu- tions
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M Inspector.	
Want of Ventilation ...	none	none	none	none
Overcrowding ...	none	none	none	none
Want of Drainage of floors	none	none	none	none
Other nuisance ...	none	none	none	none
Sanitary accommodation—				
insufficient ...	none	none	none	none
unsuitable or defective...	none	none	none	none
not separate for sexes...	none	none	none	none
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouses ...	There	are	none	
Total ...	0	0	0	0



(4). Home Work.

Nature of Work—Wearing Apparel—making, &c.

Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.--

List received for Employers sending once in the year	1
Workmen	73
Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists	None
Prosecutions—Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists	None
Failing to send lists	None

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108—

Instances	None
Notices served	None
Prosecutions	None

Outwork in Infected Premises, Section 109, 110—

Instances	None
Orders made (S. 110)	None
Proecutions (Sections 109, 110)	None

(4) Registered Workshops.

Blacksmiths	9
Carpenters	8
Plumbers	2
Bakers	8
Harness Maker	1
Dress Makers	3
Cabinet Maker	1
	—
	32

5) Other Matters.

*Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :*

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act.

*Underground Bakehouses :*

Matter notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories	none
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory & Workshop Act (s. 133)	none
Notified by H. M. Inspector	none

## Factory and Workshop Act :—

	Harness Makers.	Blacksmiths.	Carpenters.	Plumbers.	Bakers	Dressmakers.	Bootmakers.	Domestic Laundries.
Holt ...	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	1
Broughton Gifford	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1
Atworth ...	1	2	1	—	2	1	1	5
Winsley and Turley	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	3
Limpley Stoke	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	—
Monkton Farleigh	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1
South Wraxall	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	2
Winkfield	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Westwood	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Bradford Without	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	9	8	2	8	3	2	18

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. A. ADYE.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1915 and  
Previous Years.

## BRADFORD-ON-AVON RURAL DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	NETT.		Number.	Rate.*	Of Non-residents Registered in the District.	Of Residents not Registered in the District.	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages	
			Number.	Rate.*					Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.*
1910	5498	114	...	20.73	64	11. 6	15	9	3	26. 3	63	11. 4
1911	5313	108	109	20.51	85	15.99	9	6	14	128.4	82	15.43
1912	5349	91	92	17.19	66	12.33	14	3	4	43.47	55	10.28
1913	5373	98	98	18.23	64	11.91	7	6	1	10.20	63	11.72
1914	5419	103	103	19.00	60	11.07	4	3	10	97.08	57	14.19
1915	5171	95	95	18.35	59	11.39	6	5	4	42.10	58	11.20

\* Rates calculated at per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres	...	...	...	...	16,608.
Total population at all Ages	...	...	...	5,313	} At Census of 1911.
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	1217	
Average number of Persons per House	...	...	...	1.36	

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1915.  
BRADFORD-ON-AVON RURAL DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							Total Cases notified in each Locality.						Number of Cases removed to Hospital	
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	Monkton Farleigh and Wraaxall.	Westwood, Winkfield and Limpley Stoke.	Holt.	Proughton.	Atworth.	Winsley.		Bradford Without.
Diphtheria ... (including Membranous Group)	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2
Erysipelas ...	2	...	1	4	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	6
Scarlet Fever ...	6	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	...	...	...	4	4	1	2	1	4	1	1	...	...	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	21		2	5	7	5	2	2	5	10	1	3	...	..	11

Conjoint Isolation Hospital at Trowl ridge. Total available beds, 50.  
Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1915.

## BRADFORD-ON-AVON RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in whole District at Subjoined Ages.							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2.	5 and under 15.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
All causes { Certified ... ..	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Uncertified ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	5	...	...	...	...	2	3	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)... ..	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	5	...	...	...	...	1	4	1
Organic Heart Disease ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	6	1	...	...	...	1	4	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ... ..	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Defined Diseases... ..	21	1	1	1	...	7	11	4
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ... ..	6	...	...	...	...	1	5	1
All causes certified ... ..	58	4	3	1	5	15	30	12



TABLE IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY during the year 1915.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under  
One Year of Age.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	2—3 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—9 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes —							
Certified ... 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations	1	...	1	..	..	...	1
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	2	...	2	1	...	1	4

Births in the year  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{legitimate 92.} \\ \text{illegitimate 3.} \end{array} \right.$

Deaths { legitimate 3.  
illegitimate 1.

## TABLE C.

## RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

## WATER SUPPLY.

Any developments during 1915 ? .....	None.
Any insufficiency, and where ? .....	Murhill.
Any curtailment ? .....	Yes.
When and for how long ?	12 months.
Did any wells fail, and where ? .....	Murhill.
Any unsatisfactory quality, and where ? ..	None Analyzed.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Any development during 1915 ? .....	No.
Developments still needed to	
(a) Want of sewers—The only sewers are at Holt.	
(b) Improvement of defective sewers—These are practically new.	
Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works	
or complaints as to smells ? .....	No.
No. of sink-wastes disconnected during 1915	3
Trapped .....	3
Proportion still needing disconnection ....	Not known.
Untrapped .....	None.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privies with open middens .....	2
No. of Pail or Tub Closets .....	490
No. of Privies covered .....	318
No. of Water Closets .....	178
Waste-water Closets .....	221
No. of Privies re-constructed during 1915	(a) w.c's.—0. (b) other—43
No. of <i>additional</i> closets provided for old	
property in 1915 .....	(a) w.c's.—2. (b) other—3
No. of Closets for new houses in 1915 .....	(a) w.c's.—2. (b) other—7

## SCAVENGING.

How is refuse disposed of (a) Destructor .....	(b) Tips .....
(c) Farmers .....	Total annual cost ? .....
Is there any inadequacy, and where ? ..	Yes, in whole district.
Any change during 1915 ? .....	None.

## NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1915 ..	19, where nuisances existed.
Informal Notices served .....	14
Complied with .....	22
Statutory Notices served .....	5
Complied with .....	5
Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of	
1914 .....	28
At close of 1915 .....	10
Reported during 1915 .....	18
Abated during 1915 .....	26
Summonses or other legal proceedings ....	None.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register.	Total No. of Inspections made.	General Condition ?	Legal Proceedings if any.
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...
Canal Boats .. ...	...	...	5	Fair.	None.
Offensive Trades ... .. (Please specify kind) <i>Pell-monger and Flock factory</i>	2	2	...	...	...

Have the Council declared any other pro-  
cesses to be offensive trades, *e.g.*,  
Fish-frying, etc. ? ..... No.

## SCHOOLS.

No. of Elementary Schools in District .... 10  
No. of Visits to Schools by M.O.H. .... 10  
Action Taken ..... None.

## MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Cowkeepers in district ..... 112  
Ditto Registered ..... 103  
No. of Milksellers who are also Cowkeepers 112  
No. who are Purveyors only ..... 2  
Total No. Registered ..... 104  
Total No. of Cowsheds ..... 319  
No. of Inspections in 1915 ..... 170  
General Condition ..... Fair.  
Approx. No. of Milch Cows in District .. 2 712  
Any insufficiency in Milk Supply ? ..... No.  
Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders .. None.  
Any Inspection or other action by Districts  
to which Milk is sent ? ..... None.

## OTHER FOODS.

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by  
Officer of S.A. for examination under  
the Food and Drugs Act ..... None.  
No. adulterated ..... None.  
No. of seizures of unsound food ..... None.  
Kind and quantity ..... —  
No. of prosecutions ..... None.  
No. of Slaughter houses ..... 1  
No. Registered ..... None.  
Kind and Condition ..... Very good.  
No. of Prosecutions ..... None.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Any Smoke nuisance, and where ? ..... None.  
No. of Smoke observations taken ..... None.

## ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Acts adopted during 1915 ..... Notification of Births Act.  
For Rural Districts—Obtained in 1915 ? Any Urban Powers.

## BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Any adopted during 1915 ?.....	No.
Are any other Byelaws needed .....	For Building.

## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1915 ?.....	Influenza and Nerve Disease.
What special action to combat same ? ..	Isolation and disinfection.
Is Hospital accommodation adequate and sufficient ? .....	Yes.
What arrangement for the supply of antitoxin ? .....	Free by Council to poor persons.
Any diseases specially added to notifiable List ? .....	No.
Any influences threatening the health of the District ? .....	No.

## SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS.

Mention any subjects which have been specially investigated and reported on during the year.—None out of the ordinary run of work.

### TUBERCULOSIS.—*Procedure after notification :*

Inspection of patient's home and workshop	Yes.
Examination for contacts .....	In some cases.
Disinfection .....	After death or removal.
Distribution of leaflets.....	In all cases.
Action <i>re</i> spitting .....	Cups provided where necessary
Shelters provided .....	One.
Is sputum examined ? .....	Where necessary.

## BACTERIOLOGY.

What Laboratory utilized ? .....	Clinical Research Association.
Any suggestions ? .....	A County Laboratory.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

What organised effort to control it ? ....	None locally.
Has Notification of Births Act, 1907, been adopted ? .....	Yes.
Is Health Visitor appointed by S. A. ?....	No. By County Council.
Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1915 .....	None.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Births during 1915 .....	Males 47. Females 48. Total 95
No. of illegitimate included in above .....	2 Males. 1 Female.
No. of Still births (not included) .....	None.
Deaths during 1915—	
(1) Gross Deaths <i>i.e.</i> , Total actually registered in the District <i>without any correction</i> .....	59
(2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated .....	Males 30 Females 28—58



## MISCELLANEOUS.

Mean Temperature for 1915 .....	Not known.
Rainfall .....	Not Registered.
What Mortuary accommodation ? .....	None.
No. of Burial Grounds.....	9
Any need for extension ?.....	No.

## SANITARY STAFF.

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H. ? .....	£45.
Name of Sanitary Inspector .....	Richard Giddings.
Annual Salary of Inspector.....	£60
Other appointments held .....	Surveyor.
Salary for such other appointments .....	£70
Any Assistants ? .....	No. [stances
Is Staff sufficient ? .....	Yes, under present circum-



SUMMARY OF HOUSING WORK DURING 1915.

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1914.	Houses inspected under the Act and Regulations in 1915.		Houses found satisfactory on inspection.	Houses found with defects.		Houses made fit after preliminary notice.		Action under P.H. Acts in cases of houses with minor defects and remediable under Section 15, owing to the tenancy having commenced before December 3rd, 1909.						Action under Section 17.						Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1915.										
	Houses with minor defects. (Public Health Acts.)	Houses totally unfit for human habitation. (Section 17.)	119	54	64	44	4	Houses found to be totally unfit for habitation.	Houses represented to Local Authority as being totally unfit for human habitation.	Houses made fit for human habitation without the issue of a closing order.	Houses closed voluntarily.	Houses made fit for human habitation after closing order was made, for which the local Authority determined the order.	Houses demolished voluntarily.	Houses with minor defects. (Public Health Acts.)	Houses totally unfit for human habitation. (Section 17.)	39	119	54	64	44	4	4	2	1	1	2	59	12		

Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II. of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910? R. GIDDINGS, Frome Road, Bradford-on-Avon.

OTHER ACTION IN REGARD TO HOUSING :—

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where?..... Holt and Limpley Stoke.  
Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where?.. One at Hartley.  
No. of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1915? One.  
Any special activity in house building, and where?.. No.  
No. of new houses built during 1915?.....  
Working class dwellings erected during 1915 by Sanitary Authority? .....  
Are Sanitary Authority contemplating erection of working class dwellings? .....  
Any scheme prepared during 1915? If so give details  
Any scheme contemplated? .....  
TOWN PLANNING :—  
Building operations adjourned to after the war.  
None during the war.

